

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498
Serial No.: 10/550,964
Date of Office Action: 07/24/08
Response dated: 10/16/08

PATENT
PU030103

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 remain pending in this application. Claims 13-17 have been allowed, claims 2, 3 and 7-9 stand objected to, and claims 1, 4-6 and 10-11 stand rejected. Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 13-17 are allowed and claims 2, 3, and 7-9 would be allowable if re-written in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following:

- 1) The office action response of April 15, 2008, canceled claim 12 from the application; and
- 2) The office action response of November 13, 2007, added new claims 18 and 19, yet these claims have not been acknowledged by the Examiner in either of the two subsequent office actions. New claims 18 and 19 submitted in the office action response of November 13, 2007 depend from claim 13 and are therefore believed to also be allowable.

Reconsideration of the claim rejections is requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0203771) in view of Rebo et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2008/0119184).

In asserting this rejection, the Examiner reiterates the same text relating the Chang et al. as asserted in the §102(e) rejection asserted in the office action of February 6, 2008, and again states that "Chang discloses all the subject matter of the claimed invention except the session information including a session key." This is simply not true.

More specifically, in asserting this rejection, the Examiner states that Chang et al. discloses a communication system comprising A gateway (50) connected to a wired network (See Fig. 1 and paragraph 23), "a plurality of access points associated with *and controlled by* the gateway (20a/20p)...[emphasis added]". However, a careful reading of Chang et al. indicates that the DLR 50 (the gateway as used by the Examiner), does not

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control the Access points (Access Network Controllers) 20a, 20p at all. In fact, Chang et al. clearly teaches that the Base station manager (BSM) 30 manages the states of the ANCs 20a and 20p in hardware and software, monitors the operations of the ANs and collects statistic materials (See paragraph 0023). Furthermore, The DLR (gateway) 50 of Chang et al. functions like a home location register (HLR) by providing mainly voice service, and the location information of an AT upon receipt of location information request for the AT from the GAN 100.

Thus, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the DLR (or gateway as used by the Examiner) does not operate to maintain session information that exists for each wireless client connected to the wired network through an access point associated with the gateway. The AN AAA 40 performs the authentication process for the ATs, thus clearly teaching that the DLR does not accomplish authentication. Therefore, Chang et al. fails to disclose or remotely suggest this aspect of Applicants' claimed invention.

The teachings of Rebo et al. fail to cure the above cited deficiencies of Chang et al. Thus, the combination of the session key/identifier capability of Rebo et al. with the failed teachings of Chang et al. clearly do not disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed invention as set forth in independent claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and early allowance on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of Rebo et al. in further view of U.S. Patent No. 7,062,262 to Baird. As noted above, claim 12 has been previously cancelled from the application. Notwithstanding the fact that Chang et al. fails to disclose all of the features of claim 6, in asserting this rejection, the Examiner cites Baird for reporting an error message if requested information is not found in a database (240). Baird teaches a method and apparatus for tracing components of a production chain, and is in no way related to wireless communication systems as is the present invention and the teachings of Chang et al. and Rebo et al. In fact, Baird states "the invention is intended to provide an integrated tracing system, enabling tracing from raw ingredients through a finished commercial product." Thus, Applicants question the skilled artisan's motivation for making the combination proposed by the Examiner.

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicants have amended claim 6 to recite the feature that after receiving a session data failure message from the gateway, the access point generates session data, reports the generated session data to the gateway and sends an association response to the wireless client. This feature was part of original claim 8. This feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by any of the cited references taken singly or in any combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view Rebo et al. in further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0046179 to Kokudo.

Claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 1, and therefore for at least the reasons cited above, are believed to be patentably distinct from Chang et al. taken singly or in combination with Kokudo.

Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,062,262 to Baird and further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0046179 to Kokudo.

Claims 10 and 11 depend ultimately from claim 6, and therefore, for at least the reasons cited above, are believed to be patentably distinct from Chang et al. taken singly or in any combination with Baird and/or Kokudo.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication of the allowability of independent Claim 13. It is therefore understood that dependent claims 14-19 are also allowed.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the accompany Remarks, Applicants solicit entry of this amendment and allowance of the claims. If, however, the Examiner believes such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at (609) 734-6820, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due with regard to the filing of this Amendment. However, is there is a fee, please charge the fee and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

ZUNBIAO ZHANG-ET AL.

By: 

Robert B. Levy, Attorney
Reg. No. 28,234
Phone (609) 734-6820

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Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing LLC
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312

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